

Amendments to the Specification

- (1) Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 8 and replace as follows:

The pluggable service delivery platform shown in FIG. 1 comprises three parts, Device Abstraction Layer (DAL), Service Abstraction Layer (SAL) and Kernel Service Engine. FIG. 1 focuses on components of a platform kernel. The details of SAL and DAL will be illustrated in FIG. 4 and FIG. 5 respectively. As shown in FIG. 1, the platform kernel comprises a service engine **101**, a runtime monitor **102**, a profile manager **103** and auxiliary components **104** (such as a ~~security manager~~~~billing manager~~) **104a**, a ~~billing manager~~~~security manager~~ **104b**, etc). As shown in FIG. 1, XML is used within the platform as an interface language. XML is used widely in the platform to exchange information between different components in the platform. XML is also used in the DAL and SAL, such that information processed in the platform will be based on XML. For the service engine, both a synchronized service engine and an asynchronized service engine are provided. The service engine supports synchronized communications by session as well as synchronized communications by queue. For example, the synchronized service engine can be based on IBM WebSphere which is a Web application server and has strong XML support.

(2) Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 19 and replace as follows:

5. Device gateway: The device gateway in the present Invention sits in the device abstraction layer. It can accept a request from a device over some sort of network protocol. transform the request into XML over HTTP, then the send the request to the platform kernel. After getting the data from the backend system through the platform kernel, it then transform the page into device readable page and send to the other device over the network that the device connects to. The device-platform interface may provide a corresponding gateway for each kind of device, for transforming the information representation XML into a file format which is adapted for various devices for displaying and transforming among communication protocols based on the script language of various devices stored in the device profile.